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interest which now seem so difficult of determination will be gradually solved.

We must reserve further comment until the Conference has concluded its labors.

The Cultivation of Insult.

President Roosevelt has added another to the list of pungent phrases with which he from time to time seeks to emphasize his peculiar views of the nature and dangers of peace, and to support his belief in the omnipotent efficacy of a big navy to maintain peace and to secure for the nation the love, respect and just treatment of other nations. In his speech at Cairo, Ill., on the 3d inst., he used the following language:

"The policy of 'peace with insult' is the very worst policy upon which it is possible to embark, whether for a nation or an individual. This nation is now on terms of the most cordial goodwill with all other nations. Let us make it a prime object of our policy to preserve these conditions. To do so it is necessary on the one hand to mete out a generous justice to all other peoples and show them courtesy and respect, and on the other hand, as we are yet a good way off from the millennium, to keep ourselves in such shape as to make it evident to all men that we desire peace because we think it is just and right, and not from motives of weakness or timidity."

This is only saying, in another form, what the President has said during the past four or five years nearly every time that he has made an important speech. But this time his language is peculiarly unfortunate. "Peace with insult" is a hard phrase for the President of the nation to employ when speaking of our relations with other friendly nations. If the words have, in his mouth, any more than a mere rhetorical significance, they must mean either that in his opinion some nation, or nations, has already been insulting us or is clearly manifesting the disposition to do so at the first favorable opportunity. Else why does he use the pungent phrase in support of his wish for the building up of a big navy, a navy strong enough to parry hostile attacks by "hitting"?

It is an unfortunate way to attempt to preserve the relations of most cordial goodwill with other nations, which the President says truly now exist, to talk of them as if they had no cordial goodwill toward us, but were keeping a keen lookout for a chance to insult us. How far short does this come of being an actual and open insult to them?

One could not, if he tried, find in our history more than one or two instances of anything like insult towards us by a foreign power, and the war into which we fell on one of these occasions is now nearly universally confessed to have been a serious blunder, if not worse. It might have been entirely avoided by a little more patience and self-possession. Much less likely is any nation in the future to offer us anything like an insult. That day has gone by; the nations now universally respect and honor us,

and complain of us only when, in our might, we forget to be just and generous.

The President asks "that the nation, as a whole, show substantially the same qualities that we should expect an honorable man to show in dealing with his fellows." That is the truth, splendidly said. But an honorable man, in dealing with his fellows, is not quick to suspect or resent insult; indeed, he refuses generally to see one at all, and above all he does not go about talking of his neighbors as if he suspected them of continually concocting insults against him and warning them that he is filling his pockets ever fuller and fuller with pocket artillery that he may be ready at any moment to "hit." This is the conduct which is expected of a gentleman even in this day, when, as the President thinks, we are so far from the millennium. This is the conduct therefore, according to the President's own code, which we have a right to expect from a nation which calls itself civilized and Christian.

The argument used by the President at Cairo leads precisely the other way. It should convince everybody that the proper way to promote and maintain terms of cordial goodwill with all other nations is to reduce the navy to the lowest possible minimum, to "mete out a generous justice to all other peoples," to "show them courtesy and respect," to cease to throw out unfounded suspicions of evil intentions on their part, and to declare, to the utmost extent possible, our belief in their goodwill and respect for us.

The policy of the cultivation of insult, by suspecting it, by daring it and uttering sharp warnings against it, "is the very worst policy upon which it is possible to embark whether for a nation or an individual." It is the way of hatred and strife and war; of international division and exclusiveness,—with which the world ought long ago to have done.

The Sixteenth International Peace Congress.

The Sixteenth International Peace Congress, held at Munich from the 9th to the 14th of September, has given, in its own way, another proof of the remarkable rapidity with which the movement for the suppression of war is gaining ground.

The Congress, of which we give elsewhere a more extended account, was, both in numbers and in moral force and enthusiasm, successful beyond expectation. No such meeting had before been held in Southeastern Germany. The number of persons in that region who had come into touch with the movement or who knew anything definite of its character and progress was small. It would not have been surprising, therefore, if the Congress had met with indifference or positive neglect.

Ten years before, the Peace Congress had been held in Hamburg, the commercial metropolis of